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TREATISE
ON
HORSEMANSHIP.
BY
LIEUT. J. EICKE.



600082064Q







A

CONDENSED, PRACTICAL,
TREATISE
UPON
HORSEMANSHIP.

BY
LIEUTENANT J. EICKE,
Riding Master,
BRIXTON HILL, SURREY.

LONDON:
PIPER, STEVENSON, AND SPENCE,
28, PATERNOSTER ROW.

—
1860

268. b. 97.

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BRIXTON:
JOHN FENTON, PRINTER, (POST OFFICE,) LOUGHBORO' PLACE.



INTRODUCTION.

“A Cheval ! à Cheval ! hésitation c'est lâcheté.”

The object of this book is to bring before the reader a simple and explicit description of the whole art of Riding and Managing a Horse, and to enable those who desire to improve themselves in Horsemanship, an opportunity of studying the principal rules that should be adopted under different circumstances, as they may chance to occur, and also to give a hint about the most appropriate costumes suitable to various occasions.

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REMARKS.

THE HORSE.

“ Survey the warlike horse ! didst thou invest
With thunder his robust distended chest ?
No sense of fear his dauntless soul allays :
’Tis dreadful to behold his nostrils blaze ;
To paw the vale he proudly takes delight,
And triumphs in the fulness of his might ;
High raised, he snuffs the battle from afar,
And burns to plunge amid the raging war ;
And mocks at death, and throws his foam around,
And in a storm of fury shakes the ground.
How doth his firm, his rising heart advance,
Full on the brandished sword and shaken lance ;
While his fixed eyeballs meet the dazzling shield,
Gaze, and return the lightning of the field !
He sinks the sense of pain in generous pride,
Nor feels the shaft that trembles in his side :
But neighs to the shrill trumpet’s dreadful blast
Till death ; and when he groans, he groans his last.”

YOUNG.

ALTHOUGH the art of riding cannot be perfectly acquired from reading, still there are many important points which can be studied, and errors pointed out, which by a careful perusal, may tend to a more speedy practical knowledge, when accompanied by lessons from a good Master. It is a deplorable fact that the chief number of Riding

Masters are nothing more than uneducated Livery Stable Keepers, or Old Dragoons, whose style of teaching is neither elegant nor complete, as it is not directed by reason or a knowledge of the art. It is of the utmost importance to all persons, both male and female, that they should understand something about horsemanship, as in some localities there are no other modes of conveyance, added to which it is conducive to health and enjoyment. Can anything be more acceptable to a husband than the companionship of his wife? It must add materially to his pleasure which would be lessened by a lonely ride. To the lover it has even a greater charm, with his belle fiancée at his side, in that admirable dress which enhances her charms and gives so much elegance to her form; it is sufficiently encouraging to induce those before indifferent to the art, to become converts, and anxious to emulate their fair equestrian rivals. Ladies derive much benefit from the exercise, which otherwise they would not; as many capital horsewomen are but indifferent pedestrians, and consequently without horseback exercise, they would be entirely deprived of air and relaxation. It is very healthful for children of all ages,

making them vigorous, athletic, and courageous, and indeed, is equally salutary to persons advanced in life, or whose occupations are of a sedentary character, so that it should be followed by all who have time and opportunity to enable them to do so.

LADIES' DRESS.

IT is an acknowledged fact that a lady never looks to greater advantage than when well equipped and well mounted. The length of the skirt should never exceed one yard and three-quarters in length, but in our opinion it is safer that they should even be three inches shorter. With regard to colour, the most becoming is black or dark blue, made with tight sleeves, as the more compact and close fitting to the figure, the more elegant is the effect. With regard to the other portion of Ladies' clothing for equestrian exercise, it should be of the most simple character, perfectly free and unencumbered by a mass of under-clothing, which renders the seat unsafe and painful, from the friction arising from the displacing of the petticoats; we would therefore

suggest that Ladies should adopt simply a flannel slip, and ample riding trowsers with straps of the like material and colour of the habit. This permits sufficient scope for the graceful fall of the habit and precludes its getting drawn up and twisted about the pommel of the saddle or legs of the fair rider.

It may possibly be attributable to the exquisite figures of those ladies to whom the Author has the honour of giving Riding Lessons, but he cannot forbear observing that the Equestrian Habits used by them and furnished by

S. R. SALAMAN,

No. 19, Charing Cross,
combining style and fashion, with ease and comfort, are most becoming and lady-like, and give additional grace to that which is sure to be acquired by a finished and expert horsewoman.

Ladies' hats should fit so securely as never to require adjusting during the ride. Those at present in vogue are very suitable and becoming to all Ladies, the feathers having a light and pretty effect; bows and extraneous trimmings are not calculated to improve the appearance. In reference to this point of the dress, hats of every

description and fashion for Ladies and Gentlemen, Huntsmen and Youths, are to be met with at

I. H. Quick's,
21, Kings' Row, Victoria Road,
Pimlico.

It is uncalled for to say more, than this House of Trade is of long standing and great respectability and that the most fastidious will be sure to procure what may be desired and please.

Gloves should be made invariably with gauntlets; in summer as a protection from the sun, and in winter to guard against the cold; besides, they give a more complete effect to the whole costume than the ordinary style of gloves. The selection of well-made gloves and gauntlets is really not a matter of trifling consideration, there is no article of attire more needful and ornamental. Superior gloves stamp the position of the wearer, whereas those of inferior make and quality (like as a fly in a pot of ointment, spoils the whole) affect the *tout ensemble* of a lady's costume, rendering it unseemly and inelegant. Having remarked upon the selection of gloves it may be expected we should refer to the selec-

tion of the glover, and we are confident we shall not err in naming

ALFRED PIVER & COMPANY,

160, Regent Street,

the only house in the kingdom for the real Jouvin patent kid gloves.

We consider brooches misplaced, and that neckties are in better taste : green, purple, cerise, and violet ribbon should be worn in winter, and in summer the lighter shades of the same colours. We need scarcely add that the feathers worn in the hat should be neither black nor white, they should correspond in colour with the neck-tie, as should also the hair net, unless this be of a pale brown or black. The collars most becoming the Equestrian costume are plain stitched, either wholly white or with the stitching to match the colour of the neck-tie. We would particularly impress upon our fair readers the necessity and importance of protecting their forms from the cold wintry blast, by the addition of an elastic under-vest, with sleeves, during the winter season, and warm angola hose should be worn. To those ladies who cannot wear the under-jacket, we would recommend a tight fitting paletot as not unpic-

turesque. Above all it is necessary that Ladies should be careful on dismounting, not to take off their riding dress until they have become perfectly cool, as the exercise of riding, being somewhat more violent than Ladies' other daily movements, induces a degree of warmth that should not be checked too suddenly. This requires equal attention in warm or cold weather, and should not be neglected, as it undoes or injures all the benefit arising from the exercise. It may be of service if we here advert to the pocket Siphonia and Ladies' caps and hoods. These very useful habiliments, remarkable for their lightness and softness of texture, are easily folded so as to be carried in the pocket or on the saddle and will prove eminently useful, affording protection against colds arising from exposure to the wet and in preserving the hat and habit of the horsewoman from damage arising from sudden showers of rain. The Manufacturer and Patentee is

EDMISTON,
Charing Cross.

As in the outset, we observed that horse exercise was productive of the chief of blessings "health," any suggestion which is calculated to make

known a means of its preservation, cannot but be regarded with attention, and this we invite to a vestment, which having been strongly recommended by that eminent physician, the late Sir Philip Crampton, Bart., needs not our commendation. It is "the new patent ventilating corset" possessing the special advantages of perfect ventilation of the temperature of the body, of affording an agreeable support to the figure, and of being particularly adapted for equestrian exercise and giving relief in sultry weather. They are manufactured by

GEORGE CLARK, Croydon,

Opposite the West Railway Station, and Colchester Street, Savage Gardens, City; who can also supply "Smith's celebrated stays," which obtained a prize medal at the Paris Universal Exhibition, 1855. In ordering these stays the size round the waist will in general be sufficient guide to insure accuracy in the fit.

Whips; the only kind calculated for Ladies, *petites mains*, are perfectly straight; these answer the same purpose in guiding and managing a horse, as the right leg and spur of a gentleman. It is equally unnecessary and dangerous for Ladies to

make use of a spur, except for those very experienced and practised horsewomen who hunt.

The most becoming and approved style of dressing the hair for horseback exercise is assuredly the plainest, and should be *bien soigne* —this great natural ornament, indeed the chief and most beautiful one in lovely woman, should never be worn in curls, as every motion of the horse disarranges each lock, in young children this may be tolerated only ; anything loose and flapping about gives an awkward look and draws attention, being unsightly.

LIEUT. J. EICKE'S WOODEN OR DUMMY HORSE FOR SCHOOLS.

EVERY beginner should be taught one or two lessons of half an hour's duration on a dummy or stationary horse, previous to being mounted, in order to learn the right way of mounting and dismounting, to handle the reins and obtain a becoming posture in the saddle, not easily acquired by other methods now in use, of placing the tyro at once upon horseback before they have the least notion of what they have to do ; the consequence

is that they frequently become nervous, and lose their confidence and command of the animal, a defect which it takes some time to eradicate.

LADIES' MOUNTING.

LET the Lady approach the horse quietly near the shoulder, take the whip between the thumb and first finger of the right hand, also leaving the lower or curb rein on the horse's neck, then place the right hand upon the centre pommel, and the left foot into the attendant's hand, by bending the knees at the same time, and laying the left hand upon the right shoulder of the assistant; the attendant then counts one—two, at the second caution, viz., when he says two, the Lady springs up into the saddle, where she remains an instant with the face and whole body towards the side of the horse, whilst the lower pommel is adjusted. She then raises her right leg over the centre pommel, then fixes the left leg under the lower pommel, and the left foot is then placed in the stirrup, which should be sufficiently tightened to keep the left leg fixed firmly under the lower pommel just above the knee. When this is

arranged she takes the upper or snaffle rein into the left hand, passes the middle finger downwards through it, and places the ends between the thumb and first finger, compressing them with the thumb, then takes the lower or curb rein loosely, inserts the little finger into it and passes the end inside the hand across the palm, and places it above or over the upper or curb rein, and presses it between the first finger and thumb in like manner. Bear in mind that there is no support or assistance in the reins, they are simply for guiding and managing the horse. The posture should then be so that the Lady is exactly facing the centre of the horse's head, and looking directly between its ears ; seated rather backward, and firmly from the hips downwards, the left leg from the knee should be close to the saddle, the heel almost level with the toes, which should be straight, and neither turned in nor out ; the foot well drawn back and under the body, so as to be able to raise it when trotting ; the left leg to be kept steady and not swinging about, the ball of the foot bearing on the stirrup ; the body from the hips should move slightly, and almost imperceptibly, in unison with the action of the horse.

The whip should now be held lightly between the thumb and three first fingers, about six or eight inches from the handle (depending of course upon the length of the whip); which should slant obliquely towards the horse's hind legs, but turned a little outward, so as not to touch the animal. For position and management of the reins, see below.

LADIES' DISMOUNTING.

TAKE the reins in the right hand, remove the foot from the stirrup, then withdraw the right leg from the pommel, at the same time turning so as to face the side of the horse, and placing the right hand upon the centre pommel; the attendant will then twist the lower pommel to allow free space to dismount. The Lady then gathers up the skirt in the left hand, places it upon the attendant's right arm, and dismounts.

POSITION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE REINS.

THE rider will now sit as easily as if he were in a chair, and looking forward between the horse's

ears, he will find himself in an even position with them. The hand must be held three inches from the body, as high as the elbow, in such a manner that the joint of the little finger is upon a right line with the tip of the elbow; let the wrist be well rounded so that the knuckles be kept directly above the horse's neck, the nails exactly opposite the body, the little finger nearest; the thumb flat upon the reins, this is the first position, or general position. When the horse is required to move, yield the hand to him, and for that object turn the nails downwards, so as to bring the thumb near the body, remove the little finger from it, and bring it to the place where the knuckles were at first, keeping the nails immediately above the horse's neck; this is the second position. To make the horse retrograde, quit the first position and turn the wrist quite round, let the thumb be in the place of the little finger in the second position, and the little finger in that of the thumb, turn the nails quite upwards and towards the face; this is the third position. To turn to the right, leave the first position, carry the nails to the right, turning the hand upside down, in such a manner that the thumb is carried out to the left,

the little finger brought to the right ; this is the fourth position. To turn to the left, quit again the first position, carry the back of the hand a little to the left, so that the knuckles may come a little under, and the thumb may incline to the right and the little finger to the left, this is the fifth and last position. These different positions must be performed with quickness and order.

TROTTING.

Fix the right leg tightly and firmly round the pommel, and rise a little in the stirrup at a regular pace with the horse's movement by bearing on the stirrup, incline the body a little forward from the hips and retain the centre of the saddle. The reins to be held as described in the position previous to starting.

CANTERING, GALLOPING, AND JUMPING.

WHEN cantering or galloping, incline a little backwards, always retaining a seat in the very centre of the horse's back. Press the left foot

firmly in the stirrup pointing the toe downwards, holding the right leg easily round the pommel ; rise as little as possible from the saddle, and when about to jump, go at a gentle canter, but with the curb rein loose, draw the right foot well back so as to tighten the hold on the pommel, the toes of the left foot to be pressed down to the fullest extent, keeping the left leg close to the saddle, and the right shoulder well back, for if not, most probably the seat will be lost, bend forward from the hips as the horse rises, and then a moment after well back, so as to guard against the spring of its hind legs : when jumping a ditch only, where there is no fence, do not lean forward, and endeavour to sit without perceptible movement ; to effect the canter the curb or lower rein to be drawn as tight as the upper or snaffle rein so that both have an equal pressure upon the horse's mouth. Lay hold of the upper or snaffle right rein with the two first fingers of the right hand by placing them over the rein, closing the thumb upon them, pulling the horse's head about two inches to the right, at the same time drawing back the left leg close, and as near the horse's flank as possible, slightly pressing the heel inwards ; the moment

the horse starts into a canter resume the cantering position, and if your horse be going straightforward, his right legs ought to lead a little in advance of the left ones, that is to say that the right hind leg must be as much in advance of the left hind leg as the right front leg is in advance of the left front one. In galloping, the horse keeps the front legs, and the hind legs together. In this movement ease the curb rein, but let the horse's mouth feel a slight pressure on the snaffle, always easing the bearing of the reins with the motion of the gallop by allowing the wrist to be pliable, bear harder on the stirrup and bend the hips a little more backwards.

GENTLEMEN'S DRESS.

To be well dressed is to be dressed plainly, to avoid all glaring colours, and not to wear anything liable to flutter about. Straps should always be a part of the riding costume. The whip should be straight; small box spurs, with the sharp points of the rollers rubbed off are best.

FOR THE FIELD,

a cap is preferable to the hat, it fits closer and is less liable to be lost when riding through cover,

and in case of a fall is a far better protection to the head. Scarlet, green, or black cut-away riding coats made to button well over the chest and stomach, as a protection against wet weather should be adopted. Woollen cord breeches are the most comfortable to ride in, white cords are *comme il faut* and wash well, but buckskin breeches look the best of any, only they are so difficult to clean, and in wet weather are so very unpleasant, from their adhesion.* Napoleon boots, made of patent leather are neat and becoming. They are easily cleaned. Top boots look "the thing" if a man is the medium height, and possesses a good shaped leg.

To state where a Lady rider, Horseman, or Huntsman should apply for boots, adapted to the acquirements of each, can scarcely be requisite—

MEDWIN,

Regent Street, (W.)

is patronized by His Royal Highness Prince Consort and the fashionable world, and bears so

* The requisite outfit or equipment and most complete of the kind for the huntsman or gentleman rider may be obtained at No. 19, Charing Cross, to which we have before referred, and where will be found every variety of appropriate apparel, as well for the adult as the youthful horseman, especially for riding trowsers, breeches and hunting coats.

high a reputation in his branch of trade, that it is almost, if not altogether, needless to assure our readers that they will obtain at this establishment boots of the first quality and manufacture. This house of trade requires no further recommendation beyond that the public has long since accorded.

A single-breasted waistcoat is the most compact. Scarfs are a *sine qua non*; hunting spurs and straps must not be forgotten. A substantial whip, with a curved or crooked end and thong, completes the Hunting Dress.

It is not a less received opinion that a horse-woman should be well equipped, than that her horse should be well caparisoned, and that the one should be in keeping with the other, and a perfect finish thus effected. The rider will have ample opportunity of accomplishing this desideratum by the assistance of

ARCHIBALD REED PEEL,

(Saddler by appointment to her Majesty's army,
and manufacturer of the Patent Hypolitic Tugs:)

151, Strand, next door to Somerset House.

Who stands unrivalled for the style of Ladies' saddles, which are of a superior description as

regards ease and comfort to any hitherto manufactured. His Victoria stirrup will be found of great service, and so will the Victoria bridle, which for beauty and workmanship cannot be surpassed. At their establishment there is always a select stock of gold and silver mounted whips for riding, hunting, and driving, together with hunting, and box spurs of superior finish, as also gentlemen's saddles of like character. We are persuaded that every article purchased at Peel's, cannot fail to give universal satisfaction.

MOUNTING.

AFTER learning the lessons on the dummy horse, the gentleman rider will be taught to mount in the following manner: Let him approach the animal gently near the left shoulder, take the reins and a handful of mane in his left hand, then the upper or snaffle rein being inserted by the middle finger and passed between the first finger and thumb, the thumb to press firmly upon it. The lower or curb rein to be taken loosely or slack, to have the little finger inserted, and passed up through the inside

of the hand and over the first finger, covering the upper or snaffle, the thumb pressing upon both reins; he then takes hold of the stirrup with his right hand, the flat of the leather towards him; into the stirrup he inserts his left foot; next placing his right hand open and flat on the other side of the saddle, as far down as the end of the little flap, turning his toe out so as not to touch the horse's belly, at the same time making a moderate spring or vault till he becomes upright in the stirrup, and then passes his right leg clear over the saddle without rubbing against anything. Let him seat himself quietly down, he must still retain hold of the mane: with the right hand he adjusts the stirrup for that foot, then loosens the mane. The next object is to adjust the reins as follows: The chief pressure being upon the snaffle rein, the curb being slightly held, the whip now to be taken in the right hand, the handle upwards, and held by the outside of the thigh, or in front by the horse's withers. As to the seat, the body should be inclined rather back and the head held up with ease, without stiffness; seated neither forwards, nor very backwards; the shoulders thrown slightly back, with the spine

bent in a small degree outwards, sitting close upon the saddle. Let the leg be supported by the stirrup in a natural position, without being so short as to throw back the thigh, but the nearer and closer the whole leg is brought to the horse the better, so long as the foot is not bent inwards below the ankle joint: the feet to be in a straight line, neither turned inwards nor outwards.

DISMOUNTING.

THE left hand inclosing the reins resumes its former position on the horse's mane, the whip having been previously passed into the left hand, and the rider descends from the horse on the same side as that on which he mounted. Circumstances may require a rider to mount and dismount on the right side, it is therefore necessary to practise this, which is of course exactly reversing the above directions.

ON HANDS, AND CIRCLE RIDING.

A HAND should always be firm, but delicate. A horse's mouth should never be surprised by any sudden transition of it, either from slack to tight,

or *vice versa.* Everything in horsemanship must be effected by degrees, but, at the same time, with resolution and spirit. That hand which, by giving and taking properly, gains its point with the least force, is the best, and the horse's mouth under this hand's direction will also, consequently, be the best, supposing equal advantages in both from nature. This principle of gentleness should be observed upon all occasions in every branch of horsemanship. Sometimes the right hand may be required upon some troublesome horses to assist the left, but the less this is done, the better.

The snaffle should upon all occasions be uppermost; that is to say, the reins of it must be above those of the bridle, whether the snaffle or the bit be used separately, or both together.

It is requisite, in riding, that the hand and legs should act in correspondence with each other in everything; the latter always subservient and assistant to the former. Upon circles, in walking, trotting, or galloping, the outward leg is the only one to be used, and that only for a moment at a time, in order to set off the horse true, or put him right if he be false, and as soon as that is

done it must be taken away again immediately ; but if the horse be lazy, both legs must be used, and pressed to his sides at the same time. By the term outward, is meant the side which is farthest from the centre, and by inward, is meant the side nearest to the centre. In reining back, do not use your legs, unless the horse back on his shoulders, in which case they must be both applied gently, at the same time, and correspondent with the hand ; but if a horse refuse to back at all, the legs must be brought forward as before mentioned till the horse lifts up a leg as if to go forward, at which time, and when that leg is in the air, the rein of the same side with that leg which is lifted up will easily bring the same leg backwards, and accordingly oblige the horse to back, but if it offers to move, the legs must be removed at once. The inward rein must be tighter on circles, so that the animal may bend and look inwards. Every rider must learn to feel without the aid of the eye, when a horse goes false, and remedy the fault accordingly, but this is done only by practice and attention and by a regular course of lessons under an able and experienced instructor. A horse may not only

gallop false but trot and walk false. If he gallop false, namely, if going to the right he leads with the left leg, or if to the left he leads with the right, or in case he is disunited *i.e.*, if he leads with the opposite leg behind to that which he leads with before, stop him instanter and put him off again properly. The method of affecting this is by bearing the outward leg and putting the hand outwards, still keeping the inward rein shorter and the horse's head inwards if possible, if he should still resist, then bend and pull his head outwards also, but replace it again, bent properly inwards, the instant he goes off true. A horse is disunited to the right when going to the right and leading with the right leg before, and not with the right leg behind and *vice versa* to the left. Some horses will put their head very low, in that case raise the left hand higher with the snaffle rein bearing on the horse, and play at the same time with the curb by keeping it in the right hand also, and then give and take with the movement of the horse's head; on circles, the rider must lean the body inwards, and if great attention is not given to enforce it, he will frequently lose his seat outwards. It is almost

impossible to be displaced if leaning properly inwards.

RESTIVENESS.

WHENEVER a horse makes resistance one ought before correction is thought of, to examine minutely all the saddlery to ascertain whether anything hurts or teases him, or if it is occasioned by any natural or accidental weakness, or in short any impediment in any part. For want of this precaution, many fatal disasters occur. The poor animal is frequently falsely accused of being vicious and restive, is ill-used without reason and forced into despair, is in a manner compelled to act accordingly, although he may be a good-tempered and well-disposed horse.

SHYING.

THIS practice often proceeds from a defect in the vision, therefore whenever the horse is afraid of anything, bring him up to it quietly, caressing him at the same time, he will then go quite up to it by degrees and soon become familiar with all

sorts of objects; but if he is likely to run you against a wall or into a ditch, or back on to the pavement, keep his head to it and then he will not go too near it for fear it might hurt him; it would be safer for him to step on to the pavement than to back on, as he would be almost sure to fall.

PLUNGING.

THIS is a very common habit with vicious horses, if they do it in the same place or backwards, they must by the rider's leg and spurs firmly applied be compelled to go forward; at the same time keep the head well up, but if flying forward and plunging, keep it back and ride gently and slowly for some time.

REARING.

WHILST the horse is up, the rider must yield his hand, and when the horse is descending he must apply the spurs and whip vigorously about his flank.

KICKING.

PULL the curb up sharply, at the same time apply the whip vigorously about the shoulders, head, and ears of the horse, and immediately ease the curb rein, repeating the sharp movement of the curb rein every time it kicks.

JIBBING AND JUMPING.

IF the horse stops short or endeavours by rising and kicking to unseat the rider, he must not bend the body forward, that motion throws him upwards from his saddle and the rider out of his seat, whereas advancing the lower part of the body from the hips downwards, and sending back the upper part and shoulders is the best way to keep the seat, or recover it if failing. Bending the body back in a great degree is the greatest security in flying leaps ; it is a security also when the horse leaps standing. The horse's rising does not try the rider's seat ; the lash of the horse's hind legs in springing is to be chiefly guarded against. It is better to go at a gentle pace at a fence and not to use the whip as it is apt to make him swerve, but

if a rushing horse, which is ever a dangerous hunter, it is better to let him go at the leap in his own way, than to try to regulate the pace for him.

EMERGENCIES.

WHETHER of embarrassment on the road or unquietness in the town, the reins may be taken separately in each hand, as it obviously increases the rider's power over the horse and is useful if the animal starts, shies, attempts to turn round, plunges, kicks, or rears.

BOLTING.

THE only plan that we know of is to keep the hands low and the reins in each hand, with the horse's head kept rather drawn in, not letting him have too much use of his head. Sit well back in the seat and perfectly quiet, and on no account let the whip flap about, or the heels touch the horse's side, and keep him at as slow a pace as possible, but if you cannot hold him and he bolts, saw the mouth backwards and forwards with the

snaffle and so try to get him in hand again. Take the roads with the fewest turnings and which have little traffic, if it should lead to the country or up a steep hill so much the better ; if you have the good fortune to get him into a field or open space pull one rein with all your strength (it will depend upon circumstances which rein), and press the heel of the boot with force against the horse's flank, on the same side as the rein which you are pulling, and so let him go round and round till he gives in, but if a horse once serves you this trick never mount him again.

HINTS.

HAVING fully explained how to manage the horse in his different positions of restiveness, we will now only add that if a horse jibs, rears, or back jumps, or tries to run away, that it will generally stop him by turning him round a few times by pulling his head round towards you, as it makes him giddy, and then he is easily managed ; but to do this requires a good rider, and has reference more to horse-breakers and rough riders, than those who only ride for health or amusement.

It is a good plan for gentlemen to devote a few lessons to make their limbs supple, the same as soldiers with extension motions.

A TIRED HORSE, or a horse on slipping ground, by a careful use of the curb rein is prevented from sprawling, by drawing his hind legs under him, it throws him more upon his haunches, so that he is less liable to fall upon his weak or tired fore legs.

IN DESCENDING a hill, ride on the snaffle rein.

ON JUMPING.—Always ride with a snaffle, and go rather quickly at a wide ditch, and invariably gather the horse up within the last forty or fifty yards of the jump, upon arriving at it slacken the rein to enable the horse to spring freely.

ROAD RIDING.—In riding on a road keep on the near or left side, and pass everything on the off or right side. Do not gallop or tear along the road, as it is not only dangerous, but extremely vulgar, therefore never exceed a canter until you arrive at a piece of meadow land, or common, where you may fully enjoy a gallop.

All riders ought to have a roomy saddle, and Ladies' horses should always have a fixed martingale, except for hunting or leaping. It is only

necessary for a gentleman to ride with a martingale when a horse has a habit of throwing back its head.

TURNING CORNERS IN COMPANY.—When two or more are riding together in a line and turn a corner, the one that is farthest from the corner ought to turn his eyes to the one nearest the corner, who is the moveable pivot or guiding point to wheel on; the others will look outwards, and the whole from the pivot point will file to the left, the outside rider going at a moderate pace, and each other rider shortening the pace of the horse, in proportion as they become nearer to the pivot; by this means they will keep their line, which looks well and prevents straggling.

PASSING IN LINE.—Should there not be sufficient room to pass in line (supposing you were riding three or four together) the two near-side riders ought to go forward, and the others fall in behind them, and having passed the object form up again as they were.

The horse's pace ought not to exceed six miles an hour when you are about to put it into a canter, but it is best done when walking, and

to start the horse just as he is putting down the front left leg.

Nothing is more disgraceful in itself, more detrimental to a man's seat, or more destructive to the sensibility of a horse's sides, than a continual wriggling unsettledness in a rider's legs, which prevents the horse from ever going a minute together true, steady or determined.

A horse should never be turned without first moving a step forwards ; it is always a constant rule never to suffer a horse to be stopped, mounted, or dismounted, but when it is well placed. A horse should be always kept to a proper degree upon its haunches, with its hinder legs well under it, which renders it agreeable to both horse and rider. The horse will be light in hand, and ready to execute whatever may be demanded with vigour and alacrity.

In the execution of all lessons, the equilibre of the rider's body is of great use to the horse, it should always go with, and accompany every motion of the animal ; when to the right, to the right, and *vice versa*.

Whatever pace or degree of quickness you work in (be it fast or slow), it must be cadenced,

as time is equally as necessary to a horse as to a musician.

Upon all horses, in every lesson and action, it should be remarked that there is no horse without his own *appui* or degree of bearing, and also a sensibility of mouth, and likewise a pace of his own, which a rider should discover and become acquainted with. A bad rider always takes off at least the delicacy of both if not absolutely destroying them.

The horse will inform the rider when he has the proper bearing in his mouth, by playing pleasantly and steadily with the bit, and by the spray about the mouth.

If more than one Lady or Gentleman are about to take a ride, those who first mount should turn their horse's head so as to face those who are about to vault into the saddle, until all are ready to proceed, this will prevent the horse's moving before all are prepared.

HINTS TO YOUNG HUNTSMEN.

My Hawk is tired of perch and hood,
 My idle greyhound loathes his food,
 My horse is weary of his stall,
 And I am sick of captive thrall ;
 I wish I were as I have been,
 Hunting the hart in Forest Green,
 With bended bow and bloodhound free,
 For that's the life is meet for me !

WALTER SCOTT.

AN extract from a book written by the Hunting Correspondent of the *Illustrated London News*.

There are a few hints to which pupils in the art of hunting may do well to attend: Do not go into the field until you can sit a horse over any reasonable fence, but practice at real fences; for at the leaping-bar, only the rudiments can be learned by either man or horse. The hunting field is not the place for practising the rudiments of the art. By a perfect hunter, no matter how blemished or how ugly, so that he has legs, eyes, and wind to carry him and his rider across the country. It is essential that one of the two should perfectly understand the business in hand. Have nothing to say to a jibber, a rusher, or a kicker, even if you fancy you are competent.

A colt should only be ridden by a man who is paid to risk his bones. An amateur endangers himself, his neighbours, and the park, by attempting rough riding, the best plan for a man of moderate means—those who can afford to spend hundreds on experiments, can pick and choose in the best stables—is to have a hack hunter, and if he suits, try him to teach you how to go. Never take a jump when an open gate or gap is handy, unless the hounds are going fast; do not attempt to show in front, unless you feel you can keep there. Beginners who try to make a display, even if lucky at first, are sure to make some horrid blunder. Do not wear spurs until you are quite sure that you won't spur at the wrong time. Never lose your temper with your horse. Pick out the firmest ground, hold your horse together across ploughed lands; if you want a pilot, choose not a scarlet and cap, but some well mounted old farmer who has not got a horse to sell, if he has, ten to one he leads you to grief. In going from cover to cover keep in the same field as the hounds, unless you know the country, then you can't be left behind without a struggle. To keep in the same field as the

hounds when they are running, is more than any man can undertake to do. Make your commencement in an easy country, and defer trying the pasture counties until you are sure of yourself and your horse ; nor talk neither of your triumphs nor your failures. Any fool can boast, and though to ride boldly and with judgment, is very pleasant, there is nothing for a gentleman to be specially proud of. Considering that two hundred huntsmen or whips do it better than most gentlemen every hunting day in the season, When you meet the pack with a strange horse, do not go near it until you are sure that it will not kick at hounds, as some ill-educated horses will do. Before the hounds begin to draw, you may get some useful information, as to a strange country, from a talkative farmer. When hounds are drawing a large cover, and when you cannot see them, keep down wind, so as to hear the huntsman, who in large woodlands must keep on cheering his hounds. When a fox breaks cover near you or you think he does, don't be in a hurry to give the Tally-e-a-o ! for in the first place if you are not experienced and quick-eyed, it may not be a fox at all, but a dog or a hare ;

the mistake is common to people who are always in a hurry, and equally annoying to the huntsman and the blunderer ; and in the next place if you halloo too soon, ten to one the fox heads back into cover. When he is well away through the hedge of a good sized field, halloo, at the same time raising your cap, "Tally-o-away-o-o," giving each syllable very slowly, and with your mouth well open, once or twice, and then be quiet for a short spell, and be ready to tell the huntsman when he comes up, in a few sentences, exactly which way the fox has gone. If the fox makes a short bolt and returns, it is "Tally-o-back," with the "back" loud and clear. If the fox crosses the side of the wood, when the hounds are at check the cry should be "Tally-o-over." A fresh fox slips away, with his brush straight, whisking it with an air of defiance now and then. A beaten fox looks dark, hangs his brush, and arches his back, as he labours along. When the hounds are well away it is a great point to get a good start, and learn to start as the leading hound turns right or left, or losing the scent, checks, or catching it breast high, races away mute. This will save you many an angle, and will enable

you to pull up the moment the hounds throw up their heads. Never let your anxiety to be forward induce you to press upon the hounds when they are hunting ; nothing makes a huntsman more angry or spoils sport more. Set the example of getting out of the way when the huntsman, all anxious, comes trotting back through a narrow road to make his cast after a check. Attention to the foregoing hints, which are familiar to every old sportsman, will tend to make a young one successful and popular.

A P P E N D I X .

IN galloping upon broken ground and in meadows where the gutters and ruts are close together, let the horse judge its own strides, by allowing the reins to be held very lightly, and always giving and taking with the horse as it varies its strides, so as to enable it to clear the gutters and ruts, for should you attempt to regulate its movements you would in all probability throw down both the horse and rider.

ERRATA.

Page 7, line 12, read *capes* for *caps*.

„ 8 „ 13, read *Castle* for *Clark*.

„ 32, „ 3, read *ungraceful* for *disgraceful*.

„ 35, „ 8, read *buy* for *try*.

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